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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10 of the Second Extraordinary Session
By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Gaines Melvin Briley upon being named Grand Marshal of the 1999 Portland Holi-Fest Christmas Parade.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those occasions in which Tennessee communities act to recognize their most accomplished citizens for their lives of service to their friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Portland, Tennessee have chosen Gaines Melvin Briley to act as Grand Marshal for the 1999 Holi-Fest Christmas Parade; in so doing they have selected an outstanding Tennessean whose abilities and personal characteristics are superlative; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Briley was educated in the public schools of Sumner County and received his diploma from Portland High School in 1949. He attended George Peabody Teachers College and the University of Tennessee Extension in Nashville, majoring in Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, during his high school years Mr. Briley served as a Page in the United States House of Representatives in 1946 and as a Page in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1947; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Briley served his country on active duty in the United States Air Force for four years, received the Korean Medal and the United Nations Service Medal, and served on full-time status for three years in the Tennessee Air National Guard; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Briley has sought to serve his fellow citizens in public office, serving as a member of the City Council and as Vice-Mayor of Portland. He served two distinguished terms as a member of the House of Representatives in the 85th and 86th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, a stalwart Democrat, Melvin Briley was Sumner County Campaign Co-chairman for Congressman William R. Anderson, Governor Frank Clement and Governor Buford Ellington. He also served as a member of the Sumner County Committee to Elect Ned Ray McWherter Governor and is a past president of the Sumner County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Briley has taken an active role in civic and economic activities in his community, having served on the Boards of the Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, Sumner Bank in Gallatin, Portland Industrial Development Board and Sumner County Industrial Development Board. He presently serves on the Nashville City Bank Advisory Board for Sumner County and Volunteer State Community College Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, he has sought other outlets for his civic contributions, including being Charter President and a current member of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, Past President of the Portland Lions Club and the Portland Rotary Club, and member of the Dogwood Hills Country Club and Portland Lodge #325, Free and Accepted Masons; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Briley was the owner and manager of the General Insurance and Real Estate Agency from August 1958 to September 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Briley is an active member of the Church of Christ, a devoted family man who enjoys the love and support of his wife and two sons; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Briley, despite his many community activities and civic endeavors, finds time to enjoy golf and other outside activities and a wide range of reading interests; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to join with the citizens of Portland and Sumner County in honoring this dedicated public servant, energetic and innovative civic leader, and friend to his fellow human beings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor Gaines Melvin Briley of Portland for his many years of unselfish and outstanding public service to the people of Portland, Sumner County and Tennessee, and that we congratulate him upon his selection as Grand Marshal of the 1999 Holi-Fest Christmas Parade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.